4/7/69

Dear Dick,

Every time it begins to look lime I'm going to get caught up on some things there are new developments to prevent it. This time it is John Nichols' suit. He asked for suggestions and I'm writing an analysis of the government's response. Got up at three to get a good start, got perhaps 2500 words done before taking Lil to work, and the mail that required immediate attention (which didn't all get done) took me until 3 p.m., when I decided I still had to get some outdoors exercise in-and did for an hour and a half. And so the day goes...

Your note on prints is correct. Until I get to the writing I cannot be certain of the source. I believe it is Blair and the transcript. However, whatever turns out to be what seems to be fact, the presence of prints is less significant than their absence, for planting them is consistent with being a decoy whereas their absence is consistent only with his total absence.

Had today not been a kind of holiday there I'd have had the sighted rifle back, with the ammo, etc. I borrowed their Guns Digest book and copied the enclosed, also another one on ammo but seemingly reloaded. I was looking for and didn't get what you sent. Thanks. Got the data on the M-S but not the M-C cartridge. What you say in explanation is what the gunsmith told me, only you are more lucid, more complete. I still, however, adhere to my initial belief that the smaller bullet is the better choice for assassination for the reasons you confirm and because there is less likelihood of tracing the remnant(s). For more scientific reasons this seems to be your belief.

As I told you, the evidence is they cannot tie the slug to the rifle. I have no reason to believe they can be certain of the calibre, but I do not recall that part clearly.

In due time I'll be asking for a representation of the evidence. I have already been denied the evidence itself.

When I can get to it, I'll try and confirm your theories on the local range, with the instructor doing the experimenting. If and when I can, I'll let you know.

That part of AGENT OSWALD dealing with the frameup is really shaping up.

Hastily,